(c) There is a regular increase in the total advances of public sector banks. The banks will continue to provide loans under DRI so that the percentage of DRI advances in total advances is kept up at the level of assigned target.

RBI's refusal to Bank of Rajasthan for opening new branches

770. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has recently refused permission to the Bank of Rajasthan for the opening of new branches in other States and for the possession of a currency chest; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Out of 17 proposals submitted by Bank of Rajasthan Limited for opening branches, the Reserve Bank of India have allowed the bank to open its branches at 4 centres—2 in urban areas and 2 in metropolitan areas. Proposals to open branches in semi-urban and rural centres were not considered favourably as these centres were found to be adequately banked. As regards request for the establishment of a currency chest, Reserve Bank of India's policy is not to establish currency chest with private sector banks as they have not been entrusted with conduct of Government transactions.

Transfer of Income Tax Officers

771. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Income Tax Officers and Assistant Commissioners of Income Tax in Delhi who are on a particular Ward|Range| Charge for more than two|three years and the reasons for not transferring such officers; and

(b) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to transfer such officers to curb corruption in collusion with the assessees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Three Assistant Commissioners and Seven Income-tax Officers have completed over three years in one Range|Circle and Two Income-tax Officers and Two Assistant Commissioners have served more than two years in a Range|Circle in Delhi. They have not been shifted for administrative convenience.

(b) No complaints of corruption or collusion with assessees have been received in respect of any of these officers.

Contraband goods seized at Bombay port

772. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:
SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contraband goods mainly textiles, VCRs and wrist watches, worth about Rs. 2 crores were seized by the Revenue Intelligence officials from a ship which arrived at Bombay port from Singapore on July 12, 1985;

(b) if so, what are the details of the goods seized;

(c) whether some persons have been arrested in this connction; and

(d) if so, what are the particulars of these persons?